

# SUGAR AND PLANTATION NEWS

## STOCKS ARE LOW, EXPORTS INCREASE

Sugar Shortage Is World-Wide Says Willett & Gray—Indication of Higher Prices in 1917

There were heavy sales of raw sugar at New York during the week ending October 5, according to Willett & Gray, amounting to 410,000 bags of Cuba and Porto Rico; 5000 tons Peru and 900 tons Demerara, all in port, at nearby positions, or about for October delivery.

Stocks in the United States and Cuba together were 411,992 tons, against 493,807 tons last week and 532,823 tons last year, a decrease of 90,831 tons from last year.

They state, in part, that the market is steady with moderate further offerings for October and later shipment at 5c 1/2-1/4 (6.025).

**Stocks Very Small**

Stocks of sugar in Cuba and the United States together are now below last year, and with delayed deliveries of new domestic beet sugar, present values seem warranted for a time at least.

A matter of interest is the large sales of sugar recently from warehouse to refiners. Last week the refiners' stock was 54,607 tons and this week the refiners' stock is reduced to 30,490 tons.

**In Cuba**

One Central continues to grind, the same as last year, but the receipts for the week are 1835 tons, against 5618 tons for corresponding week last year. The increased activity in the markets is reflected in the larger exports this week—24,406 tons total—destined 18,098 tons to the U. S. Atlantic Ports, 5,023 tons to New Orleans and 1285 tons to Galveston, with no shipments to Europe. Stocks in the island stand at 297,176 tons.

Visible production to September 30th is estimated at 2,975,995 tons. The weather has continued favorable for the growing crop, heavy rains occurring generally, being especially so in some parts. During the week heavy rains occurred on one day, and moderate rains the balance of the week.

**Condition Abroad**

Mail reports from Java show two cargoes (9,136) shipped to Norway in June this year and 2,837 tons to Holland. United Kingdom refiners are reported to be working full time again.

Official forecasts of the area planted to sugar cane in India this year show a deficiency of seven per cent compared with last year. The shortage was caused by unfavorable weather—deficient rainfall and lack of water supply. The decrease in the sowings would have been greater had not high sugar prices been prevailing. Following the plantings, good rains have been experienced, so that crop condition is now considered fair to good.

**Sugarless Days in Russia**

Sugar supplies are even shorter in Russia than those that have been existing in the U. K. and France. In Russia there occur "sugarless days," when everyone has to go without the article, as there is none to be had. In order to stimulate production, new factories will be relieved from paying excise taxes on their production. Arrangements are also being made to loan money to sugar factories against sugar, the same as on grain.

**Beet Crop Backward**

A good, steady demand for refined has been reported all week. The withdrawals have been comparatively large and invariably prompt shipment is demanded. In most cases prompt shipment is difficult to obtain and the trade is having trouble in obtaining sugar, and as the domestic beet crop is backward, there appears no immediate relief to the situation.

The market has been an advancing one, following raws.

**Refined Export**

There have been numerous reports of large export sales during the week, the greater part of which lacked definite confirmation. However, the Federal reports the sale of some 30,000 tons January-March shipment. While further particulars are withheld, we understand from our cable advices that this sugar was purchased by Switzerland.

Export quotations have followed the advance in local quotations and sellers now ask 5.90c to 6c net cash, in bond, for fine granulated. Michigan and Ohio Beet Granulated has also advanced from 6.55c New York basis, to 6.80c.

**Domestic Beet Crop**

Based on Government Weather Reports and notes from the press to October 4, 1916:

Temperatures had risen somewhat during the week over the best sections of the country, but at the close decided, by cooler weather prevails, with heavy frosts reported from some parts of Ohio and Michigan and light snows in sections of Montana. Good showers have fallen in Wisconsin, and on the Pacific Coast some rain is also reported. In Oregon a little more rain would be beneficial. The Colorado crop continues in very good condition. Threshing of beet seed grown at the Loveland factory was started this week, according to our advices, and the yield from the 300 acres of seed beets appears to be very good.

It is reported that the Great Western Sugar Company is planning to build another new factory in Nebraska, at Bayard, which is about twenty-five miles from their Gering and Scottsbluff plants.

Payment of regular quarterly divi-

## NEXT CUBAN CROP MAY BE SMALLER

Much Manipulation in Actual Supplies For Refiner's Purposes Is Apparent

Confidential advices received by one of the local sugar houses from New York under date of October 5 state that, "strength on this market continues, and buying by refiners has, all of this week, given a very healthy tone to the whole situation. The American has been the largest buyer, and as a rule the preference has been given to sugar in nearby positions at 5c C. & F. for Cuba. Owing to the low freight prevailing at the moment, this price is much better for the Cuban than the same figure paid some months ago."

"The total stocks in hands of importers have now been reduced to 27,000 tons. It has been thought for some time that the figures published in this connection have been faulty, but it is known now that the stock in store of one importer has been reduced within a month from 250,000 to 21,000 bags, and other importers have made proportionate reductions by selling to refiners in urgent need of supplies."

**Raws Getting Scarce**

"At present there is some sugar offered from Cuba for straight October shipment at 5c C. & F., but every day that passes makes this sugar more desirable in the eyes of refiners, and we will not be surprised to see higher figures paid for sugar in prompt positions."

"The coming into the market of both Louisiana cane and western beet sugar in appreciable quantities is yet an uncertain proposition, and refiners of imported cane sugar still have the market entirely in their own hands. There has been a lot of incompressible shifting of raw sugars back and forth between Boston and New York at refiners' expense, and our conclusion is that refiners suddenly made the discovery that stocks of raws here were seriously depleted, as already indicated in this letter."

"It is asserted by some familiar with the condition of the new sugar crop that owing to excessive drought in January to March, last, growth only commenced after the April rains, and that cane of eight months' growth, even under the most favorable conditions, will be low in sucrose. It is also said that beet sugar interests have hedged very extensively by selling December options in the exchange market. There is grave doubt as to their ability to find 'good delivery' sugar when the time comes and a possible scramble in the effort to buy in their options."

"Refined sugar, so far as the domestic trade is concerned, is not very active. The trade has covered its immediate requirements and does not feel disposed to follow up the market. Meltings have again exceeded normal after a prolonged period of excessively small meltings as compared with previous years."

**Kipahulu Grinds Early**

Kipahulu Sugar Company will commence grinding its 1917 crop on December 1, and the manager's estimate calls for 3000 tons. The weather has been exceptionally favorable and growing conditions excellent.

dead of 20 cents per share on Utah-Idaho Sugar Company's stock was authorized on September 21, payable on September 30.

**Russian Petrograd, September 11, 1916.**—The attention of sugar circles generally is chiefly occupied with the problem of scarcity of sugar that is about to be felt on the Russian market quite independent of the manipulations of speculators. The government is quite conscious of the difficulties that lie before the country in regard to sugar supplies, and measures of a governmental nature are now being proposed for the encouragement of a larger sugar production as early as the cane can be made practicable. One of the forms amounts to a series of exemptions in respect to excise to come into operation in favor of new factories that may begin work during the next few years. The measures suggested, of course, will not solve the difficulty that immediately menaces sugar consumers, but presumably that is a crisis that must now be faced and got through with as little friction as may be.

**Will Finance Factories**

According to the Kieff Mui, a conference has been held at the Central Bureau for the purchase of sugar, to deal with the question of financing sugar factories. The conference adopted a number of resolutions, including the facilitation of credit at the private banks for sugar manufacturers under certain circumstances and conditions. It was decided that it was desirable to advance money to sugar factories against sugar pretty much on the same principle as is adopted in lending money on grain.

Regarding the commercial position of sugar, there is no practical change. The various consuming centers, including Petrograd, have to pass through sugarless days often enough, but that is only a local—and it is to be hoped a passing—phase, though a very disagreeable one, of the national sugar industry.

## Status of the Sugar Industry Thirty-six Years Ago

With the estimates for the 1917 sugar crop standing in the neighborhood of 600,000 tons it will be interesting to make some comparisons with the crop estimates made by J. S. Walker in 1880, just three years after the signing of King Kalakaua's Reciprocity Treaty with the United States. After this treaty had gone into operation an attempt was made to show the status of the sugar industry on the grounds that foreign rather than American capital was chiefly benefited. These statistics were therefore compiled, showing that thirty-four out of the fifty-four plantations were owned by Americans; thirteen English; two Chinese; one Danish; one German; one French; and one jointly owned by English and German.

At that time, the estimated value of the fifty-four plantations was \$9,015,000 and more than \$1,400,000 had been lost by the original promoters of some of the early plantations. The estimated area of land planted in cane was 22,700 acres while the estimated crop to be harvested in 1880 was 44,210 tons. There were also only three plantations having 1000 acres or more planted in cane. The official compilation as given below, has never before been published.

### STANDING OF THE HAWAIIAN SUGAR PLANTATIONS IN 1880.

The date of their commencement, the amounts of land under cane, the probable amount of sugar crop of 1880, the time the cane in different localities requires to mature, the amount of capital sunk in former years (some having been abandoned, and many changed hands at new nominal figures), and the nationality of the owners.

HAWAII									
Name	Started	Acres Cane	Crop 1880	Maturing	Estimated Value	Nationality of Owners	Remarks		
Kapapala	1877	1400	1200	18 to 36 mos.	\$350,000	American	Machinery on the ground, not yet put up		
Hiles	1878	400	800	18	150,000	American	Machinery in Honolulu		
Nealehu	1878	2550	2000	18 to 36	350,000	American			
Kohala Sugar Co.	1863	900	1600	18	600,000	American			
Hinds' Mills	1876	400	1200	18	200,000	English			
Union Mills	1874	400	1000	18	125,000	English	Planters for mill own part of the land		
Star Mills	1878	250	750	18	125,000	American	Planters for mill own part of the land		
Hart & Co.	1877	240	600	18	75,000	English	Planters for mill own part of the land		
Dr. Wright	1879	250	600	18	100,000	English			
Pacific Mills	1878	410	900	16	125,000	American	Machinery on wharf at Honolulu		
Honokaa	1876	600	1200	16	200,000	English			
Paauhau	1878	400	1200	16	100,000	American	Machinery on wharf at Honolulu		
Notley & Co.	1878	250	800	16	100,000	English	Machinery shipped from Honolulu to plant.		
Ookala	1877	450	1000	16	150,000	English			
Lidgate	1875	250	600	16	85,000	English			
Kaupakua	1859	350	800	16	120,000	Chinese	Sunk \$100,000 up to 1872 when sold		
Makahaanaloa	1877	280	1000	16	130,000	American	Machinery on the ground		
Onomea	1863	300	700	18	100,000	American	Sunk \$120,000 (by compromises) up to 1874		
Paikaa	1850	300	800	18	80,000	American	Sunk \$60,000 (by compromises) up to 1870.		
Hitchcock Bros.	1875	380	800	18	100,000	American			
T. Spencer	1850	400	700	18	100,000	American	Sunk \$100,000, 1868 to 1874 (compromised with creditors).		
J. Costa	1878	120	250	18	15,000	American			
McCandless & Co.	1877	75	200	18	40,000	American	Machinery on the ground not in working order		
Waianae	1877	275	800	18	100,000	English	Machinery in Honolulu nearly completed		

OAHU									
Waialua	1864	200	500	16 to 18 mos.	\$ 80,000	American	Original owners lost \$60,000		
Lane	1868	40	60	16 to 18	25,000	American			
Kaunala	1864	150	250	16 to 18	50,000	English	Original owners sunk \$200,000		
McKeng (Heia)	1877	300	600	16 to 18	125,000	English			
Harris (Kaneole)	1864	150	300	16 to 18	125,000	American	Original owners sunk \$50,000		
Waimanalo	1878	300	800	16 to 18	185,000	American	Machinery on ground		
Waianae	1878	120	500	16 to 18	100,000	German	Machinery on ground		

MAUI									
Lahaina	1863	500	1200	16	\$400,000	American	Compromised with creditors, loss \$100,000 up to 1866		
Olovala	1877	250	700	16	200,000	American			
Waikapu	1864	350	700	16	225,000	American			
Wailuku	1863	800	1500	16	300,000	American			
Wahee	1863	800	1200	16	275,000	American	Original owner lost \$100,000		
Grove Ranch	1850	300	1000	16	250,000	American	Original owner lost \$60,000		
Baldwin & Co.	1870	400	800	16	200,000	American			
Haiku	1862	1000	2000	16 to 24	500,000	American			
East Maui	1850	450	800	24	175,000	American	Small portion of the cane land owned by outside parties		
Watson & Co.	1878	300	700	18	100,000	English	Machinery in Honolulu, cost included in value		
Akaka & Co.	1877	400	800	24	150,000	American			
Hana	1864	280	600	18	160,000	Danish	Original owners sunk \$45,000 (by compromises)		
Ulupalakua	1860	200	300	24	150,000	American			

KAUAI									
Lihue	1850	700	1600	16 to 18 mos.	\$500,000	American	Original owners sunk \$200,000		
Koloa	1850	300	1200	16 to 18	300,000	American	Original owners sunk \$60,000		
Kapa	1877	750	1500	16 to 18	300,000	American			
Kenia	1878	450	1000	16 to 18	100,000	American	Machinery being built		
Kilauea	1877	320	800	16 to 18	200,000	American	Machinery on the ground not in place		
Princeville	1862	260	700	16 to 18	200,000	American	Original owners sunk \$100,000		
McBryde	1878	150	400	16 to 18	150,000	Eng. & Ger.	Machinery on the ground not set up		

MOLOKAI									
Bal & Co.	1877	150	250	18	\$ 75,000	French			
McColgan	1877	75	100	18	25,000	English			
Meyer	1878	30	50	18	10,000	German			

Aside from the above, the Kaiwika Plantation, Hilo, and the Wilder Plantation, Oahu, have been abandoned. The Lahaina Sugar Co. of Lahaina, and Bal & Adams, Wailuku, have been merged, the former with Lahaina and the latter with Wailuku, at a loss to the owners and others of over \$300,000. Honolulu, Aug. 27, 1929.

A true copy: B. C. LYDECKER, Librarian, Public Archives.

## REFINERS CAUGHT SHORT ARE BUYING ALL RAW

**NEW YORK, September 23.**—The time appears now to have been reached which we looked forward to, when all of the grocers wish to buy at one time, and the result is distinctly seen in the withdrawal from the market of three refiners and the oversold position of the others.

In spite of repeated advances, orders for the most prompt shipment of sugar come in rapidly and continue to be received by all refiners, and everything indicates that many grocers are unable to supply their customers with sugar upon request.

The heavy buying has had a somewhat like effect upon the refiners, who, naturally not having laid in a supply of raws at the high prices previously prevailing, now wish to cover sales of refined with raws as fast as made, and which requires such rapid buying in the raw market that support given to rapid continued advances.—Willett's Bulletin.

**The 1916 Totals.**

According to present estimates based on the assumption that the Sugar Factors Company handles eighty-four per cent of the total Hawaiian output the 1916 crop will be about 567,500 tons. This is 20,782 tons less than the June estimate of 588,282 tons, and nearly 80,000 tons less than the crop of 1915.

**Olaa Weather**

Bishop & Company report cane conditions exceptionally favorable for the growing cane at Olaa. The weather has been warm with light showers.

## Russian Beet Seed

**SEATTLE, September 14.**—The Railway and Marine News of this city contains the following item in its September issue:

"A new and important trade movement was noted during the month when a shipment of 6,000 sacks of Russian beet seed was received on Puget Sound by one of the big Japanese freighters, through the well known importing house of Frank P. Dew Company."

"The shipment originated at Kieff, in the interior of Russia, and moved over the trans-Siberian railroad to Vladivostok, thence to Japan, and thence to Puget Sound, where it was transferred to Union Pacific cars and sent by fast freight to Salt Lake City, the headquarters of the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company, the seed there to be distributed among the farmers of Utah and Idaho. The seed cost, f. o. b. Puget Sound, \$135,000, and other shipments are to follow to the same consignees, a company operating sugar plants in Utah, Idaho, and Oregon, and now planning a new factory at Yakima, Wash., this year."

**Cuban Potash**

A surface deposit of potash salts covering an area of about 10,000 acres has been discovered at Motenbo, about 100 miles east of Havana, Cuba, and companies are being formed to work the deposit. It is claimed that the potash is in the form of solid and has been derived from volcanic ash under conditions which have leached the potash out of the black sand.

**Cane Tassels Late**

Alexander & Baldwin report the beginning of arrow formation in some of the Kaiman fields. The tasselling will be at least three weeks later than usual this year.

## Brewer 1917 Estimates

C. Brewer & Company have announced preliminary estimates for five of their plantations as follows: Wailuku Sugar Company, 18,000 tons; Onomea Sugar Company, 24,000 tons; Waipahoehoe Sugar Company, 11,500 tons; Honouliuli Sugar Company, 9,500 tons, and Hawaiian Agricultural Company, 13,000 tons. These estimates based on acreage and averages are for shipping purposes only.

**Pahala Is Lucky**

Besides the rains reported early last week in Kau there has been a long steady downpour extending from the mountains to the sea. At Pahala mill the gauges marked three inches, C. Brewer & Company report. It was so dry that cattle were dying of thirst in the makai pastures and the lower cane fields were getting in bad shape. This rain has saved the situation.

**Total Factor's Shipments**

The total shipments of 1916 crop sugar by the Sugar Factors' Company are very close to a total of 476,000 tons compared with the preliminary estimate made in October 1915, of 497,000 tons. Some of the 1916 sugar will not leave before November or December, Manager A. M. Novell stated yesterday.

**Rain On Lanai**

There was two inches of rain all over Lanai last week which has helped grazing conditions materially. The ranch now looks fine, H. H. Blackfield & Company reported yesterday.

**Granulated Higher**

Refined sugar advanced ten cents per hundred pounds at San Francisco yesterday. Granulated is now quoted on the \$7.45 basis.